

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 07288 291842Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-08
COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 TRSE-00 /104 W
-----301344Z 059306 /40

R 291420Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4501
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
USMISSION SINAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 7288

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PFOR EG
SUBJ: MAY DAY IN ALEXANDRIA

REF: (A) CAIRO 2834 (B) CAIRO 5295

1. SADAT'S ANNUAL MAY 1 ADDRESS TO EGYPTIAN WORKERS WILL TAKE PLACE SUNDAY EVENING IN ALEXANDRIA. CAIRO PRESS APRIL 29 ANNOUNCES HE WILL SPEAK TO 25,000 WORKERS IN ALEXANDRIA STADIUM. PRESS SPECIFIES THAT HE WILL DRIVE IN OPEN CAR TO STADIUM AND CRICLE INSIDE PERIMETER BEFORE ARRIVING AT CENTRAL PODIUM.

2. CHOICE OF ALEXANDRIA AS SITE OF SPEECH, UNPRECEDENTED DECISION TO SPEAK IN OPEN STADIUM AND PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT ROUTE PRESIDENT WILL TAKE IN HIS OPEN CAR INDICATE DESIRE DEBUNK LIBYAN CHARGES THAT DISSENT SO RAMPANT IN EGYPT THAT SADAT
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 07288 291842Z

AFRAID TO FACE HIS PEOPLE. ALEXANDRIA, WHERE NUMEROUS LIBYAN WORKERS ARE LOCATED, WAS SITE OF AT LEAST TWO ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS AGAINST NASSER, ONE OF THEM IN THE STADIUM WHERE SADAT WILL SPEAK.

3. FOLLOWING NASSER'S PRACTICE, SADAT HAS INSURED THAT HIS SPEECH HAS BEEN PRECEDED BY ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOE PLANS ASSIST

THE WORKING CLASS. DECISION TAKEN APRIL 28 TO INCREASE CEILING ON ANNUAL BONUS FOR PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS FROM LE 50 TO LE 75 IS MOST RECENT EXAMPLE. SINCE MID-FEBRUARY THERE HAS ALSO BEEN CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY FOR LAWS PROVIDING INCREMENTS TO CIVIL SERVICE AND PUBLIC SECTOR SALARIES (REFTELS).

4. PRESS PREDICTABLY ASSURES READERS THAT MAY DAY SPEECH WILL BE IMPORTANT, AND NOTES THAT PRIOR SADAT REMARKS EGYPTIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR CHAIRMAN WILL LEAD AUDIENCE IN PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE. WE EXPECT SADAT TO SEPAK ABOUT LABOR MATTERS, PROBABLY EMPHASIZING, AS AHRAH EDITORIAL APRIL 29 OBSERVES, THAT GOE MOVING ENERGETICALLY TO SAFEGUARD RIGHTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS IN EGYPT'S DEVELOPING "DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM" (THE NEWEST CATCH-PHRASE). SADAT WILL ALSO ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE SOME CHOICE WORDS FOR COL. QADHAFI AND THE SOVIETS. GIVEN LIBYAN CALL FOR ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS ALLEGED RECRUITMENT BY GOE OF EGYPTIAN WORKERS IN LIBYA TO WORK AGAINST QADHAFI (SEPTTEL), SADAT MAY USE OCCASION LABOR DAY SPEECH TO REITERATE GOE DETERMINATION SAFEGUARD WELFARE EGYPTIAN LABORERS IN LIBYA.

5. WE WILL MONITOR SPEECH AND REPORT AS WARRANTED.
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Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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